

Amendments to the Specification:

Please insert the following header and paragraph at the top of the first page immediately after the title:

Cross-Reference to Related Applications

This is the national phase of PCT Application No. PCT/EP2004/007373 filed July 6, 2004, which in turn claims priority to German Application No. 10332474.7 filed July 16, 2003, the entire disclosures of each of which are hereby incorporated by reference into the present application.

Please replace the abstract with the following amended abstract:

The invention relates to a method for connecting components[[(5)], whereby at least one rivet [[(1)]]penetrates at least one component[[(5)], and a closing head [[(6)]]is molded on the rivet [[(1)]]or any given molded part [[(1)]]by means of a molding machine. According to the invention, prior to the deformation of the closing head [[(6)]]on the rivet [[(1)]]or the given molded part[[(1)], a rivet projection (U) is determined for the respective determination of the molding parameters, such as the molding course, molding time, and molding force.